

COMICS

8
DEC

G.I. JOE

20th

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CODE
AUTHORITY

Chapman



DIRECT EDITION



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ORDERED BY AGENTS OF THE D/MONIX CORPORATION, DATA PIRATE KENSHIRO "ZERO" COCHRANE'S DIGITIZED CONSCIOUSNESS WAS RECOVERED BY ARTIFICIAL ENTITIES EXISTING IN THE HIDDEN AREA OF THE WORLD'S COMPUTER NETWORK KNOWN AS THE GHOSTWORKS. NOW, DOWNLOADED INTO THE CARBON-STEEL BODY OF AN UNSTOPPABLE WARBOT, ZERO ONCE AGAIN RIDES THE ROUGH STREETS OF TRANSVERSE CITY -- AS THE GHOSTWORKS ENTITIES' REAL-WORLD AVATAR OF JUSTICE! STAN LEE PRESENTS... GHOST RIDER 2099!

THE RECOLLECTANCE OF MEMORY

SPECIAL ILLUSTRATION BY MARVEL COMICS
COLLIN BROADWAT, SINCE © 2077 MARVEL MEDIA

The virtual environments (popularly referred to as "Psychospace") created during therapeutic neural interface are primarily symbolic in nature.

Emotional states linked to recollected events are expressed as free-associated imagery which may be grotesque and disturbing.

Caution must be exercised to maintain clinical objectivity; negative reactions may result in extremely hazardous consequences.

WHAT A
SHOCKIN'
MESS.

LEI KATIMINSKI KYLE HOTZ
WORDS PICTURES
STARK/NEES/COCHRANE LETTERING
CHRISTIE SCHWELB/ARNDT AGE CHOLINS
EVAN SKOLNICK BOBBIE
EDITOR CHASE GROUP ED.
TOM DEFFALCO
CHIEF

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SHOULD'VE EXPECTED
THE INSIDE OF KYLE'S
HEAD'D BE TOTALLY
SHELTERED.

ANYTHING TO
MAKE IT FUN FOR
OL' ZENG, RIGHT?

FINDING HER
IN THIS DATA
DUMPI'LL BE A
FIRST-CLASS
JOB OF
GLITCH.

-- BUT STILL A CASE
OF CROLLING UP
SOMETHING THAT
DOESN'T WANT TO
BE FOUND.

FIGURE THE
DOORS
REPRESENT MEMORY
STORAGE.

JUST GOT
TO FIND THE
RIGHT ONE.

SOMETHING
HYPERSECURE AND
REAP-PROTECTED
LIKE CRAZY.

LIKE
THIS
ONE.

LET'S
SEE --

SKREFNKCH
SKRAP
KRAP
TI
CHAK

LOOKS LIKE SHE
PUT REAL WORM
INTO PREVENTING
UNAUTHORIZED
ACCESS TO
WHATEVER'S
BEHIND THERE.

SAUDOZ SAYS
SHE'S BURIED
HERSELF IN
STALE CODE.
LIVING IN
RE-MAINS OF
SOME OLD
MEMORY.

NOT TOO MUCH
DIFFERENT THAN A
HACKING RUN IN
Z-SPACE. NOT
THE SAME VISUAL
MONOGRAPHY. SURE --

... WHAT'S
INSIDE.

LIKE... RUNNING
SOME KINDA
SIMULATION
PROGRAM.

I'M...

I'M HER.

MONDO
PIZZARO...

REALTIME:
MEDI-KWIK..

I DON'T
KNOW HOW
I EVER LET
MYSELF BE
TALKED INTO
THIS, JIM.*

DIRECT
MIND-TO
MIND NEURAL
INTERFACES
ARE NOTHING
FOR AMATELURS
TO FOOL
WITH.

I
DUNNO,
DOCTOR SANDOZ...
YOU SAID YOURSELF
THAT IT WAS THE
ONLY WAY TO PULL
KYLIE OUT OF
IT --

-- AND
THAT
NOBODY
HUMAN'D
TAKE THE
JOB.

*TO FIND OUT, VIO
LAST ISSUE! -EVAN

SO,
IT'S NOT
LIKE THERE
WAS ANY
OTHER
OPTION.

ACTIVITY
IN HER
HIPPOCAMPUS
JUST SHOT
UP FIFTY
PERCENT.

WHATEVER
HE'S DOING
IN THERE, IT'S
HAVING SOME
KIND OF
EFFECT.

THAT
GOOD OR
BAD?

I
WISH I
KNEW...

...WHAT
THIS
IS ALL
ABOUT.

I'M SEEING
WHAT SHE SAW.
FEELING WHAT
SHE FELT.

BUT IT'S
NOT MAKING
A WHOLE LOT
OF SENSE...

COMING
THIS FALL
FROM NETWORK
23, A BOLD
NEW DIRECTION
IN TELEVISION
DRAMA!

SAMSA!
NYRO!

MEET DETECTIVE
SERGEANT
GREG SAMSA,
ONE HONEST
COP --

-- WHO
FOUND HIMSELF
TRANSFORMED
BY FATE INTO A
**GIGANTIC
COCKROACH!**

WHAT
TH--?!

NOW, TOGETHER WITH HIS
DOUR BUT TRUSTY PARTNER,
OFFICER FRANK
KAFKA --

GOT
PLANS FOR
THE WEEKEND,
FRANK?

Eh.
JUST A
TRIAL.

-- HE DEVOTES
HIS NEWFOUND
POWERS TO THE
NEVER-ENDING
WAR AGAINST
CRIME!

FREEZE,
YOU BOZOS!
POLICE
OFFICER!

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM

HALF
MAN!
HALF
INSECT!

**--ALL
COP!**

**YOU'RE
UNDER
ARREST!**



THAT'S
SAMSA, N.Y.P.D.!
FRIDAY NIGHTS AT
NINE, RIGHT AFTER
OTHER PEOPLE'S
MISERY, HERE
ON NETWORK
23!

BE
THERE!

Something's
missing again.

DADDY?
WHERE'S THE
SOFA?

Things keep going
away, ever since
Daddy got sick
and lost his job.



Faster'n faster
lately, and I'm
scared.

What happens
when there's no
more stuff to
go away?

MMN.



NEED EXTRA
MONEY?
SURE, WE
ALL DO.

AND NOW,
IF YOU'RE OVER
SIXTY-FIVE OR
TERMINALLY ILL,
YOU CAN CASH
IN ON YOUR OWN
MISFORTUNE!

THE PRODUCERS
OF THE HOT NEW
ACTION SERIES
SAMSA, N.Y.P.D.
ARE NOW HIRING
SHORT-TERM
STUNTPEOPLE!

JUST THINK --
INSTEAD OF THE
LONG, MISERABLE
SLIDE INTO POVERTY
AND OBLIVION, YOU
CAN LEAVE YOUR
LOVED ONES NOT
ONLY AN EXCELLENT
DEATH-BENEFITS
PACKAGE --



-- BUT THE
PRICELESS
LEGACY OF A
CAREER IN
SHOW
BUSINESS!

CALL NOW!
OPERATORS
ARE STANDING
BY!



MOM,
WHERE'S
DADDY?

Oh,
no...

HOW
COULD
HE..?

STAY
HERE, KYLIE.
MOMMY HAS...
AN ERRAND
TO RUN.

...A BIZARRE INCIDENT CLAIMED THE LIVES OF TWENTY-SEVEN EARLIER TODAY DURING TAPING OF THE HOT NEW NETWORK 23 PROGRAM SAMS, N.Y.P.D. --

-- WHEN THE WIFE OF SUICIDE STUNTMAN VIRGIL GAGARIN, INTENDING TO TALK HIM OUT OF HIS BRIEF TELEVISION CAREER, JUMPED A TECHNICIAN --



-- CAUSING EXPLOSIVES INTENDED FOR AN ENTIRELY UNRELATED SCENE TO BE DETONATED PREMATURELY.

SAMS'S PRODUCERS ARE REPORTEDLY SO PLEASED WITH THE SPECTACULAR UNEXPECTED FOOTAGE THAT THEY PLAN TO REWRITE THE EPISODE TO INCORPORATE IT.

AS OFFICIAL COUNSEL FOR NETWORK 23, I CAN UNEQUIVOCALLY STATE THAT

DOUBLE-BONUS DEATH-BENEFITS PACKAGE

VIDEO SAMPLING ROYALTY PAYMENTS MADE QUARTERLY

PLUS OPTION FEES FOR THE RIGHTS TO ADAPT YOUR STORY FOR "TRAGEDY OF THE WEEK"

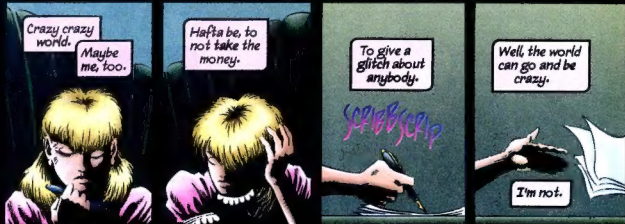
A VERY GENEROUS SETTLEMENT

SIGN HERE PLEASE

It's all

crazycrazy
crazycrazy
crazycrazy

I wanna scream but I know if I do I'll never stop.



Crazy crazy world.

Maybe me, too.

Hafta be, to not take the money.

To give a glitch about anybody.

Well, the world can go and be crazy.

scribblescrip

I'm not.

Not anymore.

And not ever again.

EverEverEverEverEver



RIGHT DECISION OF COURSE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

SECRETARY WILL SEE YOU OUT

THIS ISN'T IT.

WHEREVER SHE IS, IT AIN'T HERE.

HAVE TO KEEP LOOKING...



REALTIME:
D/MONIX.

WHAT A PERFECTLY
MACHINED TOOL YOU
ARE, HARRISON.

OUR SOCIETY CAN
BE RIGHTFULLY
PROUD OF THE
WORKMANSHIP
THAT WENT INTO
MAKING YOU.

MY
SON...



...HAS
ALWAYS
BEEN A
SOURCE OF...
TREMENDOUS
SHAME TO
ME.

RELIABILITY
INDEX IN
PROGRESS.



ALMOST FROM THE
BEGINNING, HE WAS
REBELLIOUS.

AS HE
GREW OLDER,
HE BECAME
UNCONTROL-
LABLE.



FINALLY, I
DISCOVERED HE
WAS INVOLVED
IN DATA
THEFT...

...I HAD NO
CHOICE
BUT TO...



YOU
THREW
HIM
OUT.

AND
PROCEEDED
TO ERASE ALL
RECORDS THAT
HE EVER
EXISTED.




Y-
YES.

HOW
DID YOU --



COME NOW,
HARRISON.
INFORMATION
IS MY
BUSINESS.

WHEN THE
SINGAPORE
ARCHIVE WAS
STOLEN IN TRANSIT,
I KNEW WHO IT
HAD TO BE.

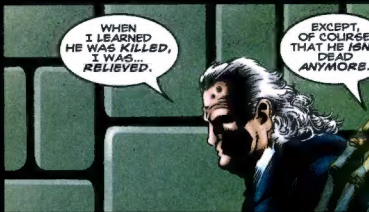


BECAUSE THE
SECURICODE
LISTED TO
PENETRATE
OUR DEFENSES
WAS YOURS.




YES.

I KNEW
THERE WAS
ONLY ONE
PERSON WHO
COULD HAVE
OBTAINED IT
WITHOUT MY
KNOWLEDGE.



WHEN
I LEARNED
HE WAS KILLED,
I WAS...
RELIEVED.

EXCEPT,
OF COURSE,
THAT HE ISN'T
DEAD
ANYMORE.



SUCH A TERRIBLE
SHORTAGE OF
EQUIPMENT LIKE
YOU THESE DAYS,
HARRISON.

SO PRECISELY
CONFORMING TO
STANDARDS. SO
PREDICTABLE IN
PERFORMANCE.

HE HAS
RETURNED TO
HAUNT US IN
THE FORM OF THIS
"GHOST RIDER,"
BECOMING A FAR
GREATER THREAT
IN THE
PROCESS.



WHICH
IS WHY
I NEED
YOU.



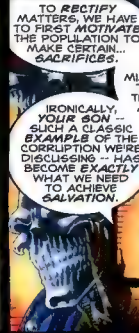
ME,
SIR?

I'M
HAPPY
TO SERVE
THIS COMPANY
IN ANY WAY
I CAN, OF
COURSE, BUT
I DON'T
SEE --



OUR
SOCIETY
IS SICK,
HARRISON.

THE
TRADITIONAL
VALUES -- LOYALTY
TO COMPANY,
OBEDIENCE TO
AUTHORITY -- ARE
BREAKING DOWN.



TO RECTIFY
MATTERS, WE HAVE
TO FIRST MOTIVATE
THE POPULATION TO
MAKE CERTAIN...
SACRIFICES.

A NUMBER
OF SMALL
PERSONAL
LIBERTIES --
MINOR THINGS -- BUT
THINGS TO WHICH
THE MASSES HAVE
A SENTIMENTAL
ATTACHMENT.

IRONICALLY,
YOUR SON --
SUCH A CLASSIC
EXAMPLE OF THE
CORRUPTION WE'RE
DISCUSSING -- HAS
BECOME EXACTLY
WHAT WE NEED
TO ACHIEVE
SALVATION.



I'M AFRAID
I... DON'T
UNDER-
STAND.

A DEMON,
HARRISON.
A PUBLIC
ENEMY SO
TERRIFYING --

-- THAT
THE POPULACE
WILL RALLY TOGETHER
AND DEMAND THE
RIGHT TO SURRENDER
THEIR PRIVILEGES AS
PART OF THE WAR
EFFORT AGAINST
HIM.



AND WHEN
WE HAVE THE
SITUATION IN
HAND --

-- WHEN
HIS
"SERVICES"
ARE NO LONGER
REQUIRED --

-- HE
CAN BE
BRADICATED.

FINDING THE
MEANS TO DO
SO WILL BE
YOUR JOB.



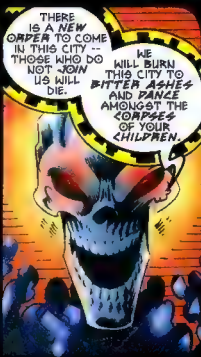
I WANT
YOU TO DISCOVER
THE SECRET OF
HIS CREATION --

-- AND
THE MEANS
OF HIS
DESTRUCTION.



I KNOW
I CAN COUNT
ON YOU,
HARRISON.

BECAUSE YOU ARE
EVERYTHING YOUR
CATASTROPHICALLY
DEFECTIVE SON
IS NOT.



A ZERO?
NO WAY
THAT'S
COINCIDENCE.

THIS ONE'S
ABOUT ME.

THIS
GOTTA
SEE.

He makes a
whimpery
growing
noise --

-- and the next
thing I know, he's
getting dressed.

HEY!

HUH?

WHERE'RE
YOU
GOING?

Gives me a
look that
says "Jeez,
what a stupid
question"
all over it.

I'M
DONE.

AND I
GOT BIZ TO
TAKE CARE
OF.



He's ready to hit the door, then does a 180.

Oh, right.



Whatever he's got to say better be good.

ALMOST FORGOT.

YEAH?



CAN I BORROW FIFTY BUCKS?



UN SHOCKIN' BELIEVABLE.



MNHEH.

hehheh



HA HA HEE



WELL?

YOU GOT THE CASH OR WHAT?

Oh, I like this one.

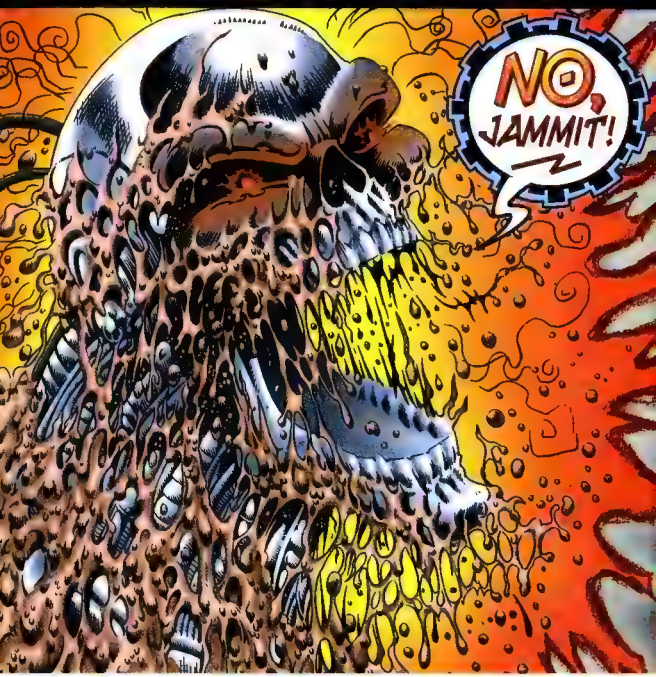
No way I'll have to worry about getting too attached --

-- he'll give me a new reason to dump him every day of the week.



HEM WAW MNH... MNEHEM... AHAHAHA HRM...

FIFTY BUCKS?





WAS THAT
REALLY HOW
I LOOKED
TO...

...THAT
RATBITING
WITCH...

...HAD
JUST
SHE

NEVER
LOVED
ME...



NEVER



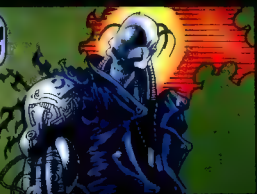
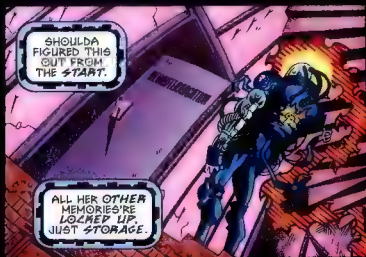
YOU!



ONLY LIKED ME
BECAUSE I WAS
DISPOSABLE.
COULD PITCH
ME ANY TIME SHE
FELT LIKE IT.

SHE DIDN'T
FIGURE IT MIGHT
NOT BE UP
TO HER.

I KNOW
WHERE SHE
IS, NOW.



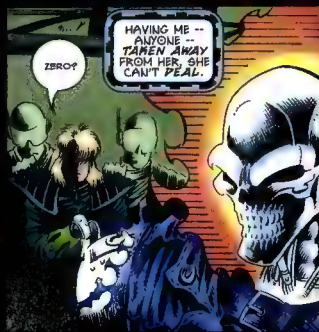


YOU CAN'T
GO AND BE
DEAD ON
ME!

YOU
SON OF A
BITCH.

YOU
STILL
OWE ME
MONEY!

PUMPING ME
WOULD HAVE
BEEN EASY.



ZERO?

HAVING ME --
ANYONE --
TAKEN AWAY
FROM HER, SHE
CAN'T DEAL.



JUST CAN'T
GET PAST
IT.

YOU
CAN'T
GO AND BE
DEAD ON
ME!



NOT
WITHOUT
HELP.

YOU
SON OF A
BITCH.



ZERO?

WHAT,
ALREADY?



I GOT BIZ
TO DO
HERE --
-- SO
MAKE IT
QUICK.

I
THOUGHT
YOU
WERE...



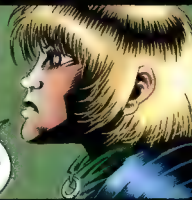
WHAT
I AM IS
BUSY,
VID?



YOU GOT
SOMETHING
YOU WANNA
SAY
TO ME, THEN
SAY IT.

I
CANNOT
BELIEVE
YOU.

I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE IN
TROUBLE, AND
IS THE
THIS THANKS
I GET?



THAT

IS



I'VE HAD
ENOUGH
OF YOUR
SCRAP!



WE'RE
THROUGH!

YEAH



FIGURE
WE ARE.

ALLL-
RIGHT!

uuhuumm...



YOU
DID IT,
MAN!

TOUCH
ME AGAIN
AND I'LL
KILL
YOU.



WHERE'S...
ZERO?



DON'T
WORRY

-- I'LL
GIVE HIM
YOUR
MESSAGE.



OH,
YEAH. ONE
OTHER
THING.

YOU
CAN FORGET
ABOUT THE
FIFTY BULKS
HE OWES
YOU.



WAIT!



HEY.

WHAT DOES SHE WANT NOW?

ZERO'S... DEAD.

ISN'T HE?

WHAT IF HE IS?

YOU GONNA TELL ME YOU'D MISS HIM?

GET REAL.



HE WAS A JERKNEED LITTLE CREEP WHO NEVER THOUGHT OF ANYBODY BUT HIMSELF UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE.

LET HIM ROT.

I...



LOOK, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.

I GOT BIZ TO DO.



ZERO..?



A detailed comic book illustration of the character Demolition Man. He is a cyborg with a metallic, blue and silver body, a skull-like head with a glowing yellow eye, and a large, dark blue, ribbed chest. He is wearing a red, white, and blue American flag cape. He is standing in a city street, with a large, stylized red and orange explosion or fire in the background. The city buildings are detailed with various architectural features. There are several speech bubbles around him, each containing a line of dialogue. The overall style is classic comic book art with bold lines and a rich color palette.

AH, SCREW IT.
WHY SHOULD I
GIVE A F*CK.

NOT LIKE I
GOT ANY USE
FOR ESTROGEN-
FLAVORED
MEATWARE
ANYMORE.

DON'T
NEED HER.
DON'T NEED
ANYBODY.

I GOT BETTER
STUFF TO DO.
SERIOUS BIX.

ALL THAT
MESSING AROUND
IN HER HEAD
REMINDS ME
THAT THE
GHOSTWORKS
WROTE HIPHOP
CODE INTO ME.

TIME I GOT
BACK ON-LINE
AND HAD
WORDS WITH
THEM...

NEXT

DEMOLITION MAN

STRAIGHT FROM EVAN

Apologies to John Gausshell, the hard-working Comicraft letterer who was unintentionally slighted in the GR2099 #6 letters page. John isn't just the guy who handles the month-to-month lettering for this series (as was erroneously reported); he also designed the jagged "GR voice" typeface. Geez, you'd think a book's editor would know who does what ...

Other than that, things are cruising along pretty well here in the future, as we quietly (and modestly) pump out one of the best-written, -drawn, -lettered and -colored comics on the market. Be watching for two very special covers coming up — each will cost you no more than the price you usually pay, and each represents an absolute first for a monthly Marvel title!

As always, those of you who regularly cruise the information highway are encouraged to drop us an electronic line. Writer Len Kaminski is available on CompuServe at I.D. #74130.3464, and I'm currently on America Online as EvanSkol. You should also check out the AOL comics boards for postings regarding this title. Keep on hacking!

Dear GHOST RIDER 2099 Staff,

Yesterday I read issue #4 and I have to say that it is the best one yet! The art was excellent, especially on Warworld. Now I hope you can please answer my questions:

1) Is Warworld gone for good? I hope not! It would be terrible to just give him the axe (I thought he and Ghost Rider were an equal match).

2) What type of metal or armor is Ghost Rider 2099 made of?

3) Will there be a crossover between the 2099 characters, and between the 2099 characters and their present-day counterparts?

Chris Crane
6103 Watchhaven Circle
Richmond, VA 23237

Thanks for the comments, Chris! As for those questions of yours:

- 1) This remains to be seen.
 - 2) The "really tough" type.
 - 3) This, too, remains to be seen.
- Glad we could be of help!

Dear Cyber-Evan,

Ghost Rider 2099 is really what the 2099 universe has needed. This cyber-dude is really wild! I have to tell you, Mr. Bachalo's and Mr. Buckingham's work is, in 2099 terms, simply jagged!

In GHOST RIDER 2099 #1, Chris and Mark drew GR as a strong and savage dude, and did an especially great job of depicting his high-tech bike. But in #4, in the fight with Warworld, Peter Gross and Bucky drew GR as small and thin,

which gives Warworld some advantage. (By the way, perhaps Warworld can come back from the dead?)

Please answer these questions:

1) In GR2099 #5, Zero calls Harrison "Dad." Is this true?

2) Exactly what is Ghost Rider's skin made out of? Liquid metal, bio-metal, or what?

Pedro Escobar
Atenco 53, Cumbria
C. Izalzi Max
Mexico, cp 54740

Pedro, the difference in GR's size from issue to issue was not due to the change in the art team. GR has two different size configurations: Combat (full-size) and Compact (human size). The latter config is designed to work in conjunction with GR's camouflage system.

As for your questions:

- 1) Yes.
- 2) "Really tough" metal.

Dear Len and Crew,

What can I say? Superb! I guess that's one word I can say, but it doesn't explain GR2099. The first five issues were excellent, especially issue #1's foil/holographic cover. The storyline was very unique, and the artistry was ... arcane, as well as the coloring: dark and dreary, maybe foreboding, in a way. That might be the reason I read the book, because of the coloring ... noah! It's got to be the story/art/coloring combined!

Issue #5 left me wondering, "Is this a Marvel title? Seems like something Dark Horse would put out!" Nonetheless, I like it!

Now, a few suggestions and questions:

1) Is the original (Danny Ketch) Ghost Rider dead? That couldn't be! After all, the GR of our present is a demon, isn't he?

2) If the GR demon isn't dead, then maybe you could have him come back in an annual or in the 25th issue?

3) Am I right in assuming that the T-1000 (from Terminator 2: Judgment Day) was made of?

4) I like the Spidey 2099 guest-appearance idea you guys are cooking up! Sounds interesting.

5) How 'bout (at some future date) GR2099 going into some other book, say, X-MEN 2100? Zero's attitude might mix with X'an and Skullfire.

6) Is "Straight From Evan" sort of like Joey's "Out of My Head"? I hope so!

7) I liked the touch in issue #1, with Picard, the guy from The Twilight Zone, and Scotty (in #2). Somehow, I think Len is a Trekker.

By the way, if it's the year 2099, what happens on New Year's Day? GR2100? DOOM 2100? X-MEN 2100? SPIDER-MAN 2100? That would be a disaster!

Anyhow, thanks for a great comic. You now have a per-

manent reader of GHOST RIDER 2099!

Sean Walsh
11 Weatherall Street
Toronto, Ontario
Canada, M6S 1S6

Sean, what can we say? Here are your replies:

- 1) That remains to be seen.
- 2) Might happen. Then again ...
- 3) Yes, and it's "really tough".
- 4) Hope you liked it.
- 5) Might happen. Then again ...
- 6) Sort of, only it's out of Evan's head, which is infinitely less encumbered by hair than Joey's.
- 7) Good guess! (By the way, the name you were looking for belonged to the immortal Red Serling.)

Dear Ghostworks,

I'm a 100% fan of GHOST RIDER 2099. I'm also a fan of Spidey 2099 and X-Man 2099, but that's besides the point. Ever since GR started his 2099 run, I've been buying his title and enjoying it.

When I bought #1, I looked at the cover and said that this was a comic that will go real far. With #2, the cover kicked butt, but when #3, 4, and 5 came along, I said to myself, "What happened to the marvelous photo?" I was hoping you could answer that.

Tasso Kostasles
1050 Shawmarr Road #76
Mississauga, Ontario
Canada L5H 3V1

The marvelous photo, ah, Tasso? Well, it's ... er ... we put it ... mm ... ah ... it's ... umm ...

TASSO, WHAT #X\$@ PHOTO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WRITE BACK AND TELL US BEFORE WE GO #X\$@X\$@ CRAZY TRYING TO FIGURE THIS OUT!

Thanks.



NEXT:

Ghost Rider 2099 is slated for destruction by an enemy from his past! Join us in 30 days for "DEMOLITION MAN"!

MACHINE LANGUAGE

EVAN SKOLNICK — EDITOR

BOBBIE CHASE — GROUP EDITOR

WRITE TO: MACHINE LANGUAGE, C/O MARVEL COMICS

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ALL CORRESPONDENCE MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, THOUGH WE WILL WITHHOLD THAT INFO AT YOUR REQUEST.